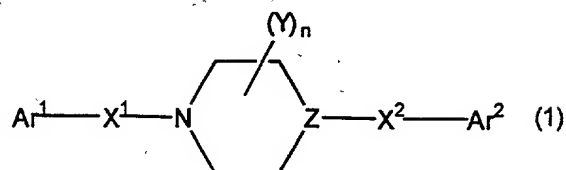


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Abstract

The invention is directed to compounds of the formula



5 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof

wherein Ar^1 is indole, benzimidazole, or benzotriazole, optionally substituted with lower alkyl (1-4C), halo, or lower alkoxy (1-4C);

X^1 is CO or an isostere thereof;

Y is optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or optionally substituted
10 arylalkyl;

n is 0 or 1;

Z is CH or N;

X^2 is CH, CH_2 or an isostere thereof; and

Ar^2 consists of one or two phenyl moieties directly coupled to X^2 and optionally

15 substituted by halo, nitro, alkyl (1-6C), CN or CF_3 , or by RCO, COOR, CONR_2 , NR_2 , OR or SR, wherein R is H or alkyl (1-6C) or by phenyl, itself optionally substituted by the foregoing substituents;

with the proviso that if Z is N, X^1 is CO, and Ar^1 is indole, Ar^1 must be coupled to X^1 through the 2-, 5-, 6- or 7-position.

20 These compounds are useful in the treatment of conditions associated with inflammation. In addition, the above compounds and other compounds described herein are useful in treating conditions associated with cardiac failure.